



Towards More Equitable Agriculture & Food Systems: The View from the Sacramento Capital Region

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UC Davis World Food Center/Climate Adaptation
Research Center

Valley Vision

A civic leadership organization serving the Sacramento Capital Region...

Impact areas:

1. 21st Century Workforce
2. Clean Economy
3. Food and Ag Economy
4. Healthy Communities
5. Innovation and Infrastructure
6. Leadership and Civic Engagement



Valley Vision Food & Ag Projects

- Greater Sacramento Region Prosperity Strategy
- Central Valley AgPlus Food and Beverage Manufacturing Consortium – federal designation to advance a sustainable manufacturing ecosystem
- Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium - Yolo County AgTech Broadband Pilot
- Regional Workforce Intermediary – Food and Ag Cluster
- We are Farm to Fork Food Factory Incubator (Sutter Health)
- Building Healthy Communities (The California Endowment)
- AgStart Incubator, Greater Sacramento Economic Council Ag Innovation Council, Metro Chamber Cap to Cap Food and Ag Committee





A healthy and thriving regional food system with access for all

A partnership between

Sacramento Region Community Foundation and Valley Vision
(2015)



SACRAMENTO REGION
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

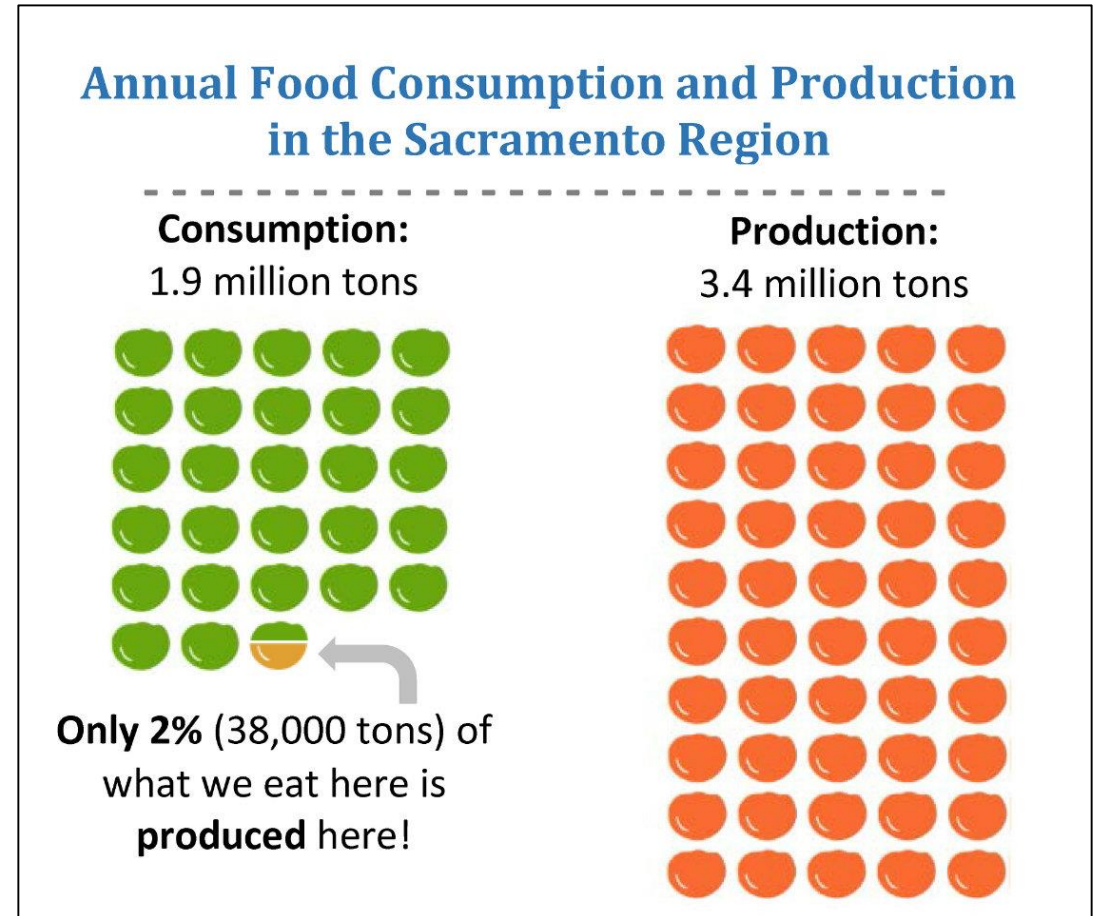
YOUR PARTNER IN GIVING



Our Region's Food Production Versus Consumption

- 3.4 million tons of food produced
- 1.9 million tons of food consumed – 56% in fresh produce
- Most of the food consumed is not locally produced

Source: Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), Valley Vision (2015)



Our Opportunity: Localizing the Food System


- Increasing demand for locally grown fresh produce
- Growing the next generation of farmers and food entrepreneurs
- Supporting local growers, especially through expanded markets
- Keeping ag lands in production
- Adopting new land use policies – i.e., Urban Ag Ordinances
- Promoting local food procurement policies
- Advancing the Health/Food Access/Food Literacy Nexus

Food System Goals

- **Goal 1:** Ensure the viability of the food and ag economy at all scales.
- **Goal 2:** Increase the amount of locally-grown produce distributed to the regional food system.
- **Goal 3:** Increase access to fresh, healthy produce, especially in underserved communities.
- **Goal 4:** Increase consumption of healthy foods through access to food and nutrition education and knowledge.






California's Working Landscapes: A Key Contributor to the State's Economic Vitality



**CALIFORNIA'S WORKING LANDSCAPE:
A Key Contributor to the State's Economic Vitality**

NOVEMBER 2019

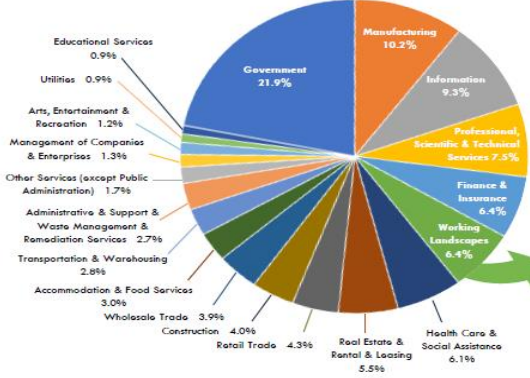




EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CALIFORNIA'S WORKING LANDSCAPE
A Key Contributor to the State's Economic Vitality
NOVEMBER 2019

In light of the important role that the landscape has played in California's development as the fifth largest economy in the world and the nation's largest agricultural producer, the California Community Colleges' Centers of Excellence collaborated with University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources to measure economic impact of the many facets of the state's working landscape, from fishing to agriculture and ranching, from mining to renewable energy. This study identifies and analyzes nine industry segments – agricultural distribution, agricultural processing, agricultural production, agricultural support, fishing, forestry, mining, outdoor recreation, and renewable energy – to quantify the contributions of Californians whose livelihoods are tied to the land.

Collectively, these segments contribute significantly to the state's economic vitality and account for more than 1.5 million jobs and nearly 70,000 business establishments. In 2018, the nine working landscape segments paid workers \$85 billion in earnings and generated \$333 billion in sales.



Industry Segment	Percentage
Government	21.9%
Manufacturing	10.2%
Information	9.3%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	7.5%
Finance & Insurance	6.4%
Working Landscape	6.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	6.1%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	5.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	3.9%
Wholesale Trade	3.9%
Construction	4.0%
Retail Trade	4.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	2.8%
Remediation Services	2.7%
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services	2.7%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	1.7%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	1.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1.2%
Utilities	0.9%
Educational Services	0.9%




Category	Value
Total Sales	\$333 Billion
Agriculture	\$263.5 B
Mining	\$32.2 B
Forestry	\$23.2 B
Outdoor Recreation	\$6.3 B
Renewable Energy	\$5.9 B
Fishing	\$1.7 B

1.5 Million Jobs

\$85 Billion Earnings

Total California 2018 sales is \$4,015,337,714,945 — just over \$4 trillion.

SOURCE: Report by California Community Colleges Centers of Excellence using 2018 data from the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

Some Key Food and Ag Cluster Facts 2019

- California's Working Landscape makes up more than 6% of the total ag economy and contributes \$338B in sales, and 1.5 million jobs
- Food and Ag Cluster Employment in the Sacramento region: Production (15,700), Agricultural Support (15,250), Processing (8,590), Distribution (16,640) – 55,180 jobs; \$12.5 billion in sales
- Ag technologies can help growers increase productivity while reducing water, energy and fertilizer use by 20-40%
- Food processing is third largest manufacturing sector in California – California Energy Commission investing state Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund in technologies that reduce use of natural gas and electricity and thus emissions

Strong Workforce Program/Career Education

- Partnership with four Community College Districts (8 colleges) and 8 Workforce Development Boards
- Labor Market Research and convenings with employers and system partners: skills gaps, emerging trends and opportunities
- Goal: Develop next generation of farmers, skilled manufacturers, and food entrepreneurs; address impacts of technology; provide career pathways/mobility
- Production, distribution and support employers all struggling to find the needed workforce
- Skills for the 21st Century Digitalization Era: Address new workforce needs for AgriFood Tech skills

Food & Ag Sector AgTech Workforce Assessment: Employer Challenges - 2020

- **Macro Trends:** Climate change, immigration status, state minimum wage increases, lack of student interest in farming and ag-related careers, lack of career technical education in K-12, aging out of low and middle skills level workforce
- **Micro Trends:** Competition for same pool of workers, lack of career pathways in K-12 systems, need to market Food and Ag career opportunities to attract next generation of workers, lack of awareness for types of positions in more advanced farming industry, competition from large-scale distribution employers, and:

Lack of Internet Access

Need for Rural Broadband



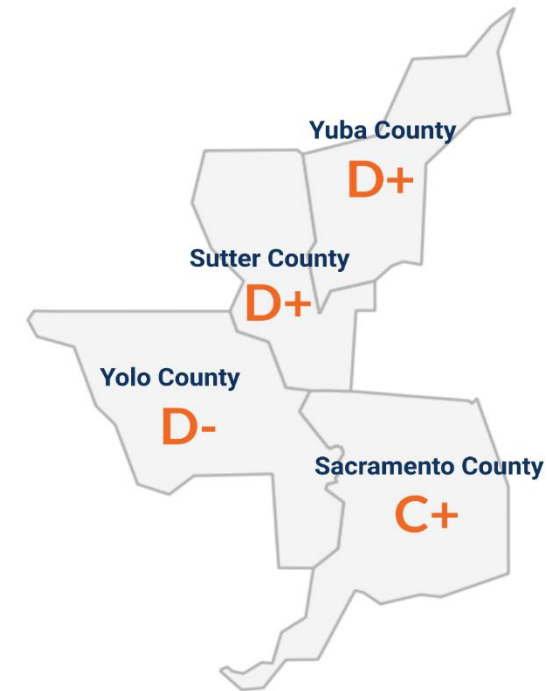
- Only 43% of State's rural population (many residing in the Central Valley) has same Internet access as urban areas; Infrastructure grades are low
- Region's rural areas "locked out" of access to critical funding sources; pervasive barriers in filling market gaps by providers
- Yolo Broadband Strategic Plan identified urban and rural broadband gaps, across all business sectors – lack of competition, high prices, unreliable service and speeds
- UC Davis preeminent, generating innovative ag technologies – can't deploy with broadband



- Funded by the CPUC
- Covers 4 counties in Capital Region – urban, rural, suburban
- Approximately 20,000 unserved households, thousands more underserved
- Yolo County AgTech Pilot demonstrated economic & environmental benefits of BB

Connected Capital Area Broadband Consortium

Broadband Report Card (2020): Barely Making the Grade



The Broadband/Digital Inclusion Imperative

- The COVID-19 Pandemic has exposed the widespread inequities (the Digital Divide) – especially in rural areas - that call forth the need for immediate action to accelerate the deployment and adoption of 21st broadband
- Distance learning, remote working, telehealth, emergency services, government services, AgTech, economic recovery and more need ubiquitous high-speed Internet infrastructure, access to technology, and access to affordable and reliable service.
- State is developing a BB Action Plan

Impacts of COVID-19 on Food and Ag Systems

- Immediate shock to hospitality sector



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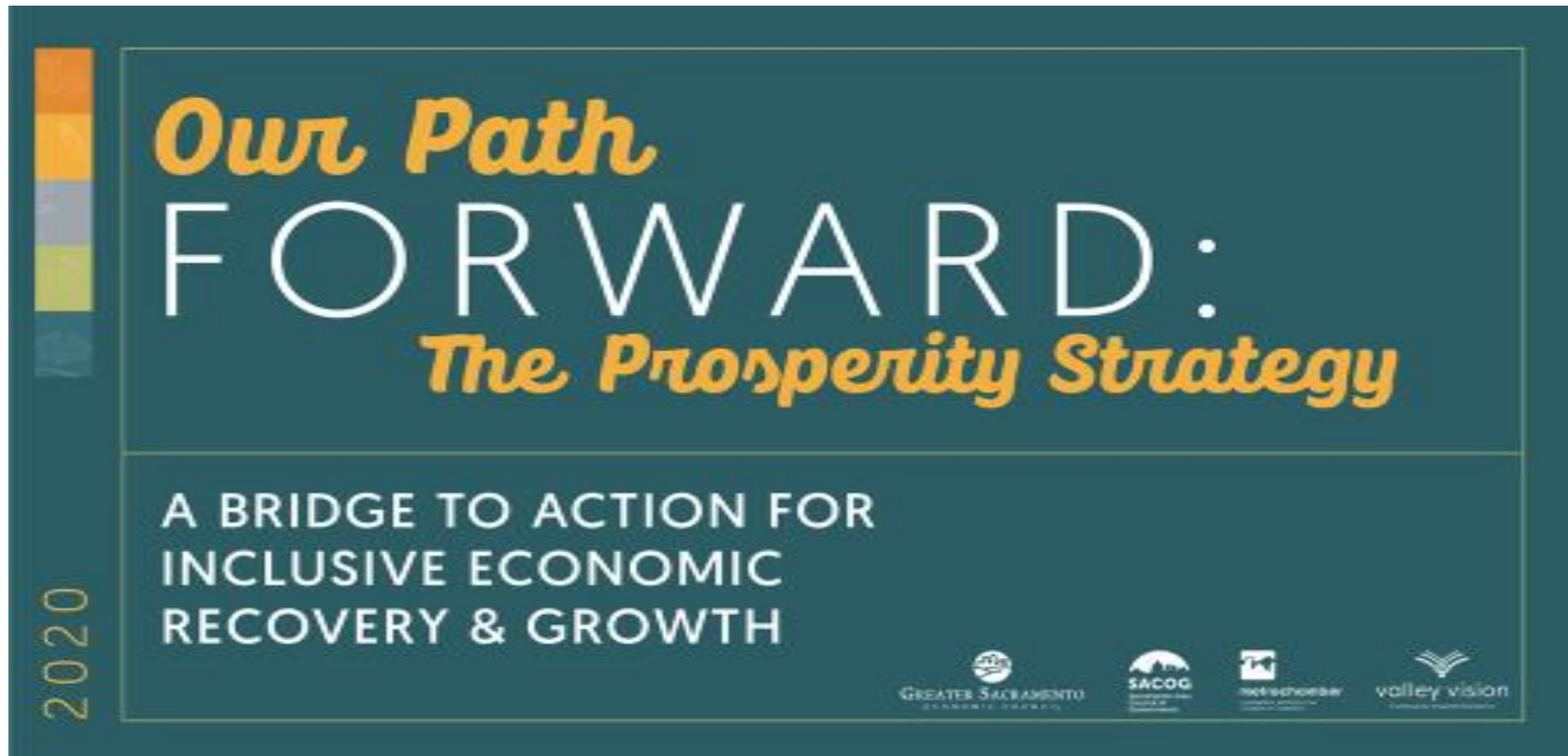


JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

- High levels of food insecurity (20% before Pandemic)
- Disruption of supply chains
- Loss of food distribution points
- Loss of markets for farmers and food distributors
- High levels of job loss or furloughs in a sector with high ratings for jobs as risk of displacement
- Concern for safety of workers, volunteers

Some Responses – Future Challenges

- Sacramento Mayor's Office holding weekly Food Access meetings help coordinate emergency response resources
- Huge increase in numbers served by Food Banks
- Distribution sites narrowed but collaboration – i.e., schools and food banks sharing pick up sites, food resources
- Rapid shift to new models of food prep and distribution
- What will impact be on longer term food supply, level of need and workforce, safety of workers, especially farmworkers?
- How to reduce food loss and waste (FLW) (more than 30% pre-COVID) and address rising food insecurity?
- How to build on emerging innovations?



A strategic framework and bridge to action for the six-county Sacramento Region that prioritizes our core economic initiatives and will result in a more prosperous, equitable and resilient region. Serves as region's federally-designated Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).



BE THE GLOBAL LEADER FOR ENTREPRENEURS, FIRMS AND WORKFORCE
IN 3 SECTORS:

FOOD, AG AND HEALTH INNOVATION

LIFE SCIENCES

FUTURE MOBILITY

The Urgency to Protect Our Food Supply, Environment & Health is Here/The Global Food Challenge

- Food System Fragility
- Nutrition Insecurity
- Healthcare Affordability
- Climate Change Impacts
- Economic Collapse





SECTOR INITIATIVES:

- Develop the **California Institute for Agriculture, Food and Health Innovation (Institute)**, to bridge the innovation gap between research, development and commercialization, leveraging the assets of UC Davis, focusing on sustainable processes and products
- Expand wet lab and greenhouse space across the region
- Support food system infrastructure projects such as technology parks, food hubs, incubators and accelerators
- Advance an institutional procurement strategy to regionalize the food system (schools, hospitals, etc.)
- Support scale-up for food manufacturing companies
- Develop a funding strategy, including a healthy food financing fund

What's Next?

Focus on Recovery Strategy to strengthen the regional food system and increase resiliency :

- Accelerate rural broadband connectivity for deployment of ag tech and rural equity
- Assist with strategies to get workers back into employment, address acceleration of digital skills such as agtech
- Support increased food access, sustainable (more local) supply chains – seek pilot with Health Care Without Harm
- Provide economic/planning tools for farmers

What's Next?

- Prosperity Strategy food and ag cluster initiatives, including nexus with health (soil, seed, plant, crop, food, nutrition), in partnership with UC ANR and the VINE – Verde Innovation Network for Entrepreneurship - and U.S. EDA innovation funding
- Governor's Executive Order N-82-20 for state agencies to conserve 30% of state land and coast water by no later than 2030, to develop a Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy by end of 2021, Ca. Dept. of Food and Ag shall work with agricultural stakeholders to identify farmer and rancher-led solutions
- UC Davis SNF grant for AI Institute for Next Generation Food Systems, to increase efficiencies in the entire food system, includes workforce focus